

Urban District of Castleford.



# ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT

Year ended 31st December, 1938.

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CASTLEFORD :  
J. T. BLUEMAN, STATION ROAD PRINTERIES.

1939



# Urban District of Castleford.



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Medical Officer of Health and Medical Officer of  
Maternity and Child Welfare Service :  
WM. KEMP, M.B., C.M.Edin.

Sanitary Inspector, Cleansing & Transport Superintendent :  
T. E. BIRTWISLE, M.B.E., F.R.San.I., F.S.I.A., M.I.P.C.

CASTLEFORD :  
J. T. BLUEMAN, STATION ROAD PRINTERIES.

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1939



# Urban District Council of Castleford.

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## **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.**

as at 31st December, 1938.

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*Chairman :*

CR. A. PICKERSGILL.

*Vice-Chairman :*

CR. T. STEWART.

CR. C. ANSON, J.P., C.C.	CR. S. J. LOWE
CR. M. BAIRSTOW, J.P.	CR. MRS. PARKER
CR. W. D. CARTWRIGHT	CR. T. STEPHENSON, J.P.
CR. W. CLAMP	CR. C. WARD
CR. W. R. COLLINS	CR. M. WHITTOCK, C.C.
CR. J. DODD	CR. H. WOODALL

CR. T. J. BROOKS, M.B.E., J.P., C.C.  
Chairman of the Council (ex-officio).

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## **MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.**

as at 31st December, 1938.

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*Chairman :*

CR. C. ANSON, J.P., C.C.

*Vice-Chairman :*

CR. MRS. A. DODSWORTH.

CR. T. J. BROOKS, M.B.E., J.P., C.C.	CR. MRS. PARKER
CR. W. D. CARTWRIGHT	CR. A. PICKERSGILL
CR. H. L. HARTLEY, J.P.	CR. J. WHITAKER
CR. F. HURDUS	CR. M. WHITTOCK, C.C.
CR. A. JAMES	CR. H. WOODALL
	CR. S. J. LOWE

*Co-opted Members :*

MRS. CARTWRIGHT	MRS. HOWELL
MRS. GRAINGER	MRS. TAYLOR



# Urban District Council of Castleford.

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## ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT, 1938.

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE CASTLEFORD  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

I have the honour of placing before you my twenty-fifth Annual Report, being a report on the health of your District for the year ended 31st December, 1938.

### Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area ... 4,394 acres.

Population (estimated 1938 R.G.) ... 43,090

Number of inhabited Houses (end of 1938, est.) 11,026

Rateable Value ... £179,486

Sum represented by a Penny Rate ... £675

The density of population yields the figure of 9.8 persons per acre. This figure is based on the Registrar General's estimate at mid-year 1938.

The District is essentially of an industrial character, and is dependent chiefly upon coal-mining, the manufacture of glass bottles, chemicals, bricks, pottery, confectionery and clothing.

### Unemployment.

The number of persons unemployed shows no comparative change. The number of contributors to Unemployment Insurance is also fairly constant. No actual figures are available for Castleford proper due to the fact that the local Employment Exchange covers a much wider area than that of the Urban District.

A large factory for the production of clothing was established some two years ago, but notwithstanding this, many female workers in this industry appear to prefer to travel to Leeds in preference to having employment near their homes.

Due to the operation of the County of York West Riding Review Order, 1938, the Urban District of Castleford was on the 1st April, 1938, greatly enlarged in respect of area and population. The area was increased from 564 acres to 4,394 acres, while the population was increased from 19,810 (R.G. estimate 1937) to 43,090 (R.G. estimate 1938).

The extension of the District involved the addition of the former Urban District of Whitwood, the parish of Glass Houghton and part of the parish of Ferry Fryston (Osgoldcross Rural District) and part of the parish of Allerton Bywater (Tadcaster Rural District).

In accordance, therefore, with Memorandum SD54 of the Registrar General, the vital statistics contained in this report are based upon a modified estimate of population, viz : 37,218 specially designed for use with the composite records of births, deaths and notifiable diseases of the year 1938.

The area now included within the altered boundary, gives additional space for amenity and recreational purposes and incidentally reduces our population density from 35 to 9.8 persons per acre.

### Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

Births.				TOTAL	M.	F.
Live Births—Legitimate				... 639	342	297
Illegitimate				... 29	19	10
Total ...				668		
Birth Rate—15.50 per 1,000 of population (Legitimate 14.83, Illegitimate 0.67).						
Still Births	...	...	...	27		
Legitimate	...	...	...	25	13	12
Illegitimate	...	...	...	2	0	2
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births					... 38.84	
				TOTAL	M.	F.
Deaths	...	...	...	... 407	238	169
Crude Death Rate 10.93 per 1,000 of estimated resident population.						
A.C.F. Adjusted Death Rate 15.52.						

## Deaths from puerperal causes—

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live & still) births
Puerperal sepsis ... ..	0	0
Other puerperal causes ...	1	1.43
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	1	1.43

## Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births 61.37

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 56.88

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births 4.49

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	51
„ from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	15
„ from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	1
„ Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	...	...	...	6

We were fortunately free from disease in epidemic form throughout the year.

## Notes on Births and Deaths.

In accordance with Circular 1728 of the Ministry of Health I have again used as the basis of calculations the figures supplied by the Registrar General.

### Births.

Live births 668, of these 361 were males and 307 females. The illegitimate births included in the above figures were 29, viz : 19 males and 10 females. This gives a birth rate of 15.50 per 1,000 of population.

The Birth Rate of England and Wales for 1938 was 15.1 per 1,000 of the population.

The number of births (adjusted for outward and inward transfers) notified to me under the Notification of Births Acts was live births 727, while there were also notified 26 still births. Total 752.



The disparity between these figures and those given to us by the Registrar General is due partly to the number of births occurring in our Maternity Home, which have to be outwardly transferred, and partly to the difference in time allowed under the relevant Acts for Notification and Registration.

## Deaths.

There have been 407 deaths registered at Somerset House, which are modified by inward and outward transfers.

This figure gives a death rate of 10.93 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population for the year 1938.

The areal comparability factor, supplied by the Registrar General for adjusting the local death rate, gives an adjusted rate of 15.52 in 1938.

The general death rate for England and Wales was 11.6 per 1,000 of the population.

The deaths of infants under one year of age were :—

Legitimate 38. Illegitimate 3. Total 41.

The infantile death rate for England and Wales in 1938 was 53 per 1,000 live births.

It may be noted that the general death rate and the infantile death rate for England and Wales in 1938 both shewed a slight decrease.

## Causes of Death (1938).

(Deaths taken from the Registrar General's Tables).

Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	0
Measles	...	...	15
Scarlet Fever	...	...	0
Whooping Cough	...	...	1
Diphtheria	...	...	5
Influenza	...	...	4
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	20

Other Tubercular Diseases	...	...	...	7
Syphilis	...	...	...	1
Cancer—Malignant Disease	...	...	...	51
Diabetes	...	...	...	3
Cerebral Haemorrhage	...	...	...	26
Heart Disease	...	...	...	106
Aneurysm	...	...	...	0
Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	16
Bronchitis	...	...	...	12
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	24
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	5
Peptic Ulcer	...	...	...	5
Diarrhoea, etc. (under two years of age)	...	...	...	6
Appendicitis	...	...	...	2
Cirrhosis of the Liver	...	...	...	0
Other Diseases of the Liver	...	...	...	4
Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	9
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	...	11
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	0
Other Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	1
Congenital Debility—Premature Births	...	...	...	19
Senility	...	...	...	12
Suicide	...	...	...	2
Other Violence	...	...	...	17
Other Defined Diseases	...	...	...	19
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	0
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	...	1
General Paralysis of the Insane, tabes dorsalis	...	...	...	0
Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	0

It may be worthy of note that of 407 deaths in the year, 26% were from heart disease; 12.5% were from cancer; and 6.6% were from tubercular diseases.

**DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR, SHEWING AGES AT DEATH.  
YEAR 1938.**

DISEASES	Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1—3 months	3—6 months	6—12 months	Total under 1 year
Pneumonia ...	0	1	0	0	1	2	3	5	11
Gastro-enteritis ...	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	3
Premature Births	7	3	0	0	10	0	0	0	10
Meningitis ...	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	2
Bronchitis ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3
Convulsions ...	0	1	0	1	2	0	1	0	3
Other defined Diseases ...	4	0	0	1	5	3	1	0	9

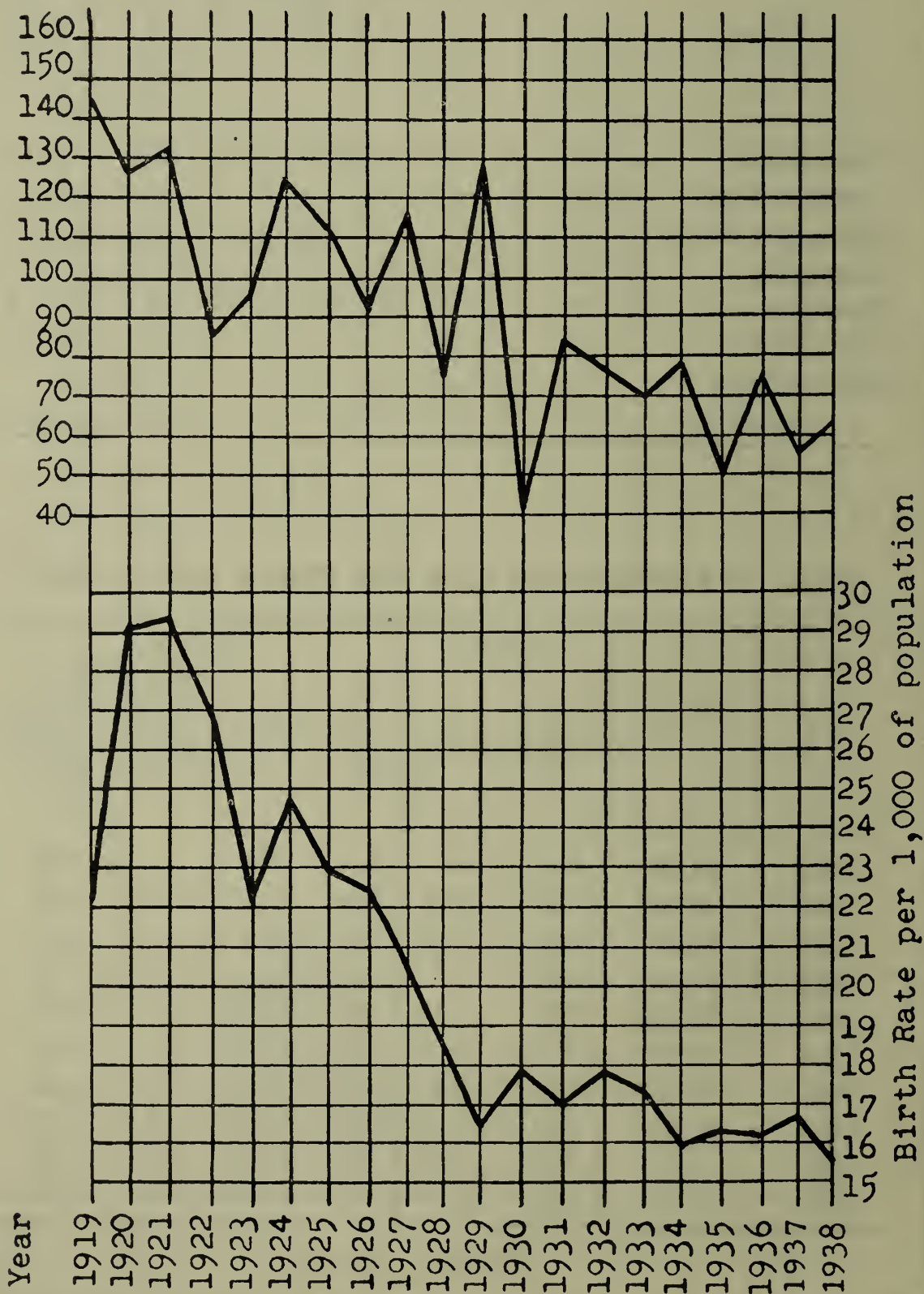
**VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE TEN YEARS 1929 TO 1938.**

YEAR	POPULATION	BIRTHS		DEATHS			
		Nett Number	Rate	Registered Number	Rate	Transferable Non-Resid'ts registered in District	Transferable Residents registered outside District
1929	23,230	384	16.5	347	14.8	...	62
1930	23,230	420	18.08	269	11.5	...	85
1931	21,970	375	17.06	284	12.9	...	72
1932	21,440	384	17.9	269	12.5	...	74
1933	21,320	373	17.49	280	13.13	...	68
1934	21,010	337	16.04	258	12.28	...	68
1935	20,670	339	16.40	266	12.86	11	83
1936	20,320	332	16.33	298	14.66	5	99
1937	19,810	329	16.61	253	12.77	14	87
1938	43,090	668	15.50	407	10.93	14	124 *

\* Enlarged Area.

Death Rate of Infants under one year  
of age, per 1,000 live births

Graph shewing fluctuation of  
Infant Mortality and Birth Rates  
Years 1919 to 1938



Year 1938 Enlarged Area



# General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

## 1—Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

*Part Time :*

WM. KEMP, M.B., C.M.Edin.

*Offices—*

Medical Officer of Health.

Medical Officer to Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

Medical Superintendent of Maternity Home.

*Whole Time :*

T. E. BIRTWISLE, M.B.E.

Certificates of Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Nuisances, and Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

Certificates of Victoria University, and Exam. Board of Sanitary Inspectors' Association.

*Offices—*

Chief Sanitary Inspector, Cleansing and Transport Superintendent.

Designated Officer under Housing Regulations.

Designated Officer under Public Health (Meat) Regulations.

Inspector under Factories Act.

Inspector under Food and Drug Act.

Inspector under Shops Act.

Inspector under Petroleum Acts.

Inspector under Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act.

Inspector under the Young Persons (Employment) Act.

E. J. WINFIELD.

Certificate of Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board.

Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

*Offices—*

Deputy Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent.

Inspector under Shops Acts.

Inspector under Petroleum Acts.

Inspector under Food and Drugs Act.

Inspector under the Young Persons (Employment) Act.



Ff. EVANS.

Certificate of Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board.  
Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat  
and other Foods.

*Offices—*

Additional Sanitary Inspector.  
Inspector under Shops Act.  
Inspector under Food and Drugs Act.  
Inspector under the Young Persons (Employment) Act.

F. E. ELSEY.

Certificate of Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board.  
Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of  
Meat and other Foods.

*Offices—*

Additional Sanitary Inspector.  
Inspector under the Shops Acts.  
Inspector under the Food and Drugs Act.  
Inspector under the Young Persons (Employment) Act.

D. J. LANE (Miss), Clerk-Typist.

L. ROBINSON, Clerk.

J. ROOKE, Clerk.

H. CARTER (Miss), Health Visitor.

State Registered Nurse.  
State Certified Midwife.  
Certificate Royal Sanitary Institute.

S. P. JOHNSON (Miss), Health Visitor.

State Registered Nurse.  
State Certified Midwife.  
Certificate Queen's Institute of District Nursing.  
Certificate Royal Sanitary Institute.

B. DIXON (Miss), Health Visitor.

State Registered Nurse.  
State Certified Midwife.  
Certificate Royal Sanitary Institute.

E. COOKE (Miss), Health Visitor.

State Registered Nurse.

State Certified Midwife.

Registered Fever Nurse.

Contribution is made under the Local Government Acts to salaries of Medical Officer of Health, Sanitary Inspector, Deputy Sanitary Inspector and Additional Sanitary Inspectors, and by Exchequer Grants to salaries of Health Visitors.

## **2—Laboratory Facilities.**

Examination of pathological and bacteriological specimens is undertaken by the West Riding County Council. The provision of this service is found to be very advantageous, and use is made of the facilities available by the medical men of the District.

## **3—Ambulance Facilities. :**

(a) INFECTIOUS CASES. Ambulance provided by Joint Hospital Board and the Castleford Urban District Council.

(b) NON-INFECTIOUS AND ACCIDENT CASES. Two Motor Ambulances are maintained by the Castleford Urban District Council and these appear to be sufficient for the needs of the District.

The local Collieries each maintain a Motor Ambulance.

## **4—Nursing in the Home.**

(a) GENERAL. The Castleford Nursing Association engages three Nurses for the District. A grant to the Association is made by the Urban District Council.

(b) FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES. Nurse would be provided if required.

## **5—Hospitals Provided.**

A. (1)—FEVER. The Council is a constituent authority of the Castleford and District Joint Hospital Board ; infectious

cases, where removal is necessary, are received at the Board's Hospital at Aketon.

(2)—SMALL-POX. The Joint Board provide for reception of cases at their Glass Houghton Small-Pox Hospital.

B. (1)—TUBERCULOSIS. A Tuberculosis Centre is provided at Pontefract by the West Riding County Council.

(2)—MATERNITY. The Castleford War Memorial Maternity Home receives normal cases from the Town and District. Thirteen beds are provided. The accommodation above-mentioned includes two private wards. At the suggestion of the Ministry of Health, arrangements have been made for the reception of complicated cases at the Wakefield Maternity Hospital and the Leeds Maternity Hospital. Cases of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia are treated at the Clayton Hospital, Wakefield, and also, by arrangement with the Leeds Corporation, at the Seacroft Hospital, Leeds.

(3)—CHILDREN. Special cases treated at Leeds General Infirmary, the Pontefract Infirmary, and the Castleford, Normanton and District Hospital.

(4)—OTHER. The Castleford, Normanton and District Hospital is available for the reception of surgical and accident cases and is a great boon to our people. In addition to the general wards there are two private wards provided. A scheme is in operation under which a Consultant attends at the Hospital weekly who will advise on cases sent to him by the local general practitioners.

The Consultant is also available in maternity cases where surgical operation is required.

The General Infirmary at Leeds, and the Pontefract Infirmary, also receive cases from the District.

## **Maternity and Child Welfare.**

### **Midwifery Service.**

This is now administered by the West Riding County Council through their domiciliary service of midwives.



In addition to the midwives engaged by the County Council, there are on the staff of the Castleford Maternity Home, the Matron, Sister and four Nurses who are fully qualified in this branch of work.

### **The Maternity Home.**

This institution was again made full use of during the year.

As in former years we had to refuse patients owing to lack of beds, the number of such refusals being 40.

In view of the discussions which have taken place with the West Riding County Council since the extension of the Urban District, it is difficult to say with certainty what the position would be should other accommodation for Maternity cases be provided in the surrounding districts, although my personal opinion is that the Home will always be needed to its full extent.

Notwithstanding this, I do feel that I must urge the provision at a very early date of proper accommodation for the resident staff, and two additional beds to be kept reserved for emergency cases.

To this end I am of opinion that there should be built an administration block in the existing grounds, which would allow of space in the Home now used for nurses' bedrooms, to be used for the two emergency beds.

In support of this, I may say that we had in 1938, 50 cases sent to other institutions, many of which could quite well have been treated at our own Home.

The admissions during the year were as follows :—

Castleford cases	...	...	...	167
West Riding County Council cases	...			82
				<hr/>
Total ...				249

The County Council cases came from the following districts, viz :—

Airedale	...	...	...	1
Allerton Bywater	...	...	...	13

Altofts	...	...	...	...	10
Fryston	...	...	...	...	3
Glass Houghton	...	...	...	...	9
Kippax	...	...	...	...	5
Normanton	...	...	...	...	21
Whitwood	...	...	...	...	8
Garforth	...	...	...	...	2
Featherstone...	...	...	...	...	1
Fairburn	...	...	...	...	1
Lock Lane	...	...	...	...	3
Little Preston	...	...	...	...	2
Micklefield	...	...	...	...	1
Barwick-in-Elmet	...	...	...	...	1
Ferrybridge	...	...	...	...	1

It will be seen from the above list that the Home is serving the needs of a much wider area than our own.

Medical aid was summoned in respect of 94 births, of which 12 were complicated cases requiring removal to hospital for special treatment.

The scale of charges in operation at the Home is as follows :

Where total family income, after deducting 5/- for each child under 14 years of age and not working :—				Amount payable by Head of Household
Does not exceed 40/- per week	...	...	...	Amount of Maternity Benefit received
Exceeds 40/- and does not exceed 50/- per week	...	...	...	£1 11s. 6d. per week
Exceeds 50/- and does not exceed 60/- per week	...	...	...	£3 3s. 0d. per week
Exceeds 60/- per week	...	...	...	£4 4s. 0d. per week

Charges in the private wards are at the rate of 6 guineas per week.



## **Ante-Natal Work.**

The present arrangements for ante-natal clinics are as follows :—

Maternity Home—1 session per week and 1 additional session per month.

Sagar Street Centre—2 sessions per month.

Airedale Centre—2 sessions per month.

Glass Houghton Centre—2 sessions per month.

Whitwood Centre—2 sessions per month.

Particulars of the work are given below :—

(i) Number of attendances by expectant mothers at all Clinics during the year—

(a) Maternity Home : 1,405.

(b) Other Centres : 2,086.

(ii) Number of expectant mothers who attended at the Clinics during the year—

(a) Maternity Home : 346.

(b) Other Centres : 569.

(iii) Percentage of notified births (live and still) represented by the total number in (ii) (b).—75.9.

Number of cases in which the services of a consultant have been provided during the year for a private medical practitioner under the Council's maternity arrangements—10.

## **Provision of Dried Milk, etc.**

The distribution of dried milk, etc., to mothers and children attending the Clinics was continued as in previous years.

In necessitous cases the milk was supplied free of charge and in others at cost price.

## **Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers, etc.**

Accommodation is provided, when required, by the Public Assistance Committee at Paradise Gardens, Pontefract.

## Clinics and Treatment Centres.

### Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics.

Address	Accommodation	By whom provided
Sagar Street	Assembly Room, Weighing Room, Kitchen, Stock and Sales Room, and Consulting Room.	Urban District Council of Castleford.
Airedale	Assembly Room, Consulting Room.	Do.
Glass Houghton	Assembly Room, Consulting Room.	Do.
Whitwood	Assembly Room, Consulting Room.	Do.

SCHOOL CLINIC at Wesley Street, provided by the West Riding County Council.

TUBERCULOSIS. Dispensary at Linden Terrace, Pontefract, provided by the West Riding County Council.

VENEREAL DISEASES. Treatment Centres at General Infirmary, Leeds, and General Infirmary, Wakefield, provided by the West Riding County Council.

## Ante-Natal Clinics.

Address	Accommodation	By whom provided
Castleford War Memorial Maternity Home, Barnes Road.	Consulting Room, Waiting Hall, 2 Retiring Cubicles.	Urban District Council of Castleford.
Sagar Street	Consulting Room, Waiting Room, 2 Retiring Cubicles	Do.
Airedale	Consulting Room, Waiting Room.	Do.
Glass Houghton	Consulting Room, Waiting Room.	Do.
Whitwood	Consulting Room, Waiting Room.	Do.

## Work of Health Visitors.

Visits paid during the year      ...      13,878

comprising the following :      ...

To expectant mothers      ...      73

To infants under one year :

First Visits 737. Total Visits      3,989

To children one to five years      ...      9,816

Other visits were paid to cases of Chicken Pox, Ophthalmia Neonatorum and Tuberculosis.

## Work at the Infant Welfare Centres.

At our Centre in Sagar Street sessions are held three times per week, viz : Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

At our Centres in Airedale, Glass Houghton and Whitwood, sessions are held as follows :—

Airedale	...	...	...	...	Mondays.
Glass Houghton	...	...	...	...	Tuesdays.
Whitwood	...	...	...	...	Mondays.

The attendances during the year 1938 were as follows :—

Infants under one year	...	...	8,133
Children one to five years	...	...	4,494

There were 249 sessions held as follows :—

Sagar Street	...	...	...	144
Airedale	...	...	...	35
Glass Houghton	...	...	...	35
Whitwood	...	...	...	35

The average attendances were :—

Infants under one year	...	...	32
Children 1 to 5 years	...	...	18

### **Child Life Protection.**

We had at the end of the year no cases on the Register of infants being nursed for reward.

### **Dental and Orthopaedic Arrangements.**

A dental surgeon in the District has been appointed to do any necessary dental work in connection with the Maternity and Child Welfare Service.

Orthopaedic cases are sent to the General Infirmary at Leeds.

## **Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.**

### **Water.**

Water supplies for the District as now constituted are taken in bulk from the Wakefield, Leeds, and Pontefract Corporations.



The supplies from Wakefield and Leeds are soft moorland waters, of excellent quality, and which have no plumbo-solvent action.

The supply from Pontefract is obtained from boreholes and while of excellent quality has from 15 to 16 degrees of hardness as delivered to us. The hardness is reduced by treatment in our softening plant to 6 to 7 degrees.

All the above-mentioned supplies are satisfactory in quality and quantity.

Certain temporary dwellings in the added areas have water from private wells, but it is anticipated that these will become disused at an early date in consequence of action under the Housing Acts.

The average daily consumption during the year ended 31st March, 1939, was 16.6 gallons per head, excluding supplies for trade purposes, which were at the rate of 3.7 gallons per head of population.

The total consumption was 317,947,000 gallons, which comprises 57,271,000 galls. for trade purposes, and 260,676,000 for domestic supplies.

For further particulars see the Sanitary Inspector's report page 50.

### **Rivers and Streams.**

The rivers Aire and Calder form the northern boundary of the District.

The West Riding of Yorkshire Rivers Board, through their officers, maintain continuous action for the prevention of pollution, and in this the officers of the Council actively co-operate.

### **Public Cleansing.**

I am pleased to note the efficient manner in which the public cleansing work of the area is carried out.

I observe that collection of refuse is done with covered vehicles, with a minimum of dissemination of dust, and that street gulley cleansing is done on the vacuum system.



## **Schools.**

The schools of the Town are maintained in a satisfactory condition.

Routine cleansing is done by the school caretakers, and general disinfection by the Council's staff when necessity arises.

All the schools are provided with water-closet accommodation and piped water supplies.

## **Housing of the People.**

There is still need for more working class houses in the district.

The new houses erected by the Council in the former Whitwood area, are a welcome addition to the existing supply, and I am glad to know that your Council have acquired more land in the Red Hill area, for the purpose of a further housing scheme.

The scheme should, I think, provide for a certain amount of accommodation for young couples and aged persons.

For further particulars on housing, see report of the Sanitary inspector, pages 32 to 37.

## **Public Baths.**

The plant installed in 1935 for the filtration, purification and chlorination of the water in the swimming pool continues to serve its purpose.

I understand the number of persons using the Baths during the 12 months ended 31st March, 1939, was as follows :—

Swimming Baths	...	...	58,653 (Including
		...	19,945 school children).
Slipper Baths	...	...	6,550

## **Artificial Sunlight and Other Special Baths.**

The Sun Ray and other Special Baths provided at the Public Baths have been much used by our people. Following are the figures for the year ended 31st March, 1939.

Sun Baths	...	...	...	393
Foam Baths	...	...	...	201

These baths are believed to be very beneficial in many cases of rheumatism and other allied ailments.

The figures given above testify to the appreciation of our people of the facilities provided by your Council for bathing. When circumstances permit it may be thought desirable to provide additional bathing facilities in other parts of the extended district.

The pit head baths provided at the various collieries must be of enormous benefit to the persons engaged in the coal mining industry.

There are no privately owned swimming baths in the district except those at the Collieries referred to above.

## **Inspection and Supervision of Foods.**

See Sanitary Inspector's report, page 37.

## **Prevalence and Control over Infectious and Other Diseases.**

The occurrence of these diseases is shown in the following tables, together with their distribution throughout the various Wards.

A stock of Diphtheria Anti-toxin is always kept at the Town Hall, and is available for the use of medical men in the District on application.

The figures in the tables show a considerable increase over previous years, but this is due to the extension of the District.

**Table shewing the Occurrence of Infectious Diseases during the years 1933 to 1938 inclusive.**

DISEASE	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Scarlet Fever ...	102	55	21	31	29	77
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	67	72	37	40	37	69
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0	0	0	0	2	2
Erysipelas ...	6	7	7	8	7	10
Pneumonia ...	27	17	15	8	13	27
Enteric Fever ...	0	0	2	0	0	0
Puerperal Fever ...	2	2	0	0	2	4
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	3	1	2	1		
Smallpox ...	1	0	0	0	0	0
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis ...	11	1	1	0	0	1
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	0	0	0	0	1	0

**Cases Notified. Year 1938.**

DISEASES.	CASTLEFORD (prior to extension) for whole year.	TRANSFERRED AREAS from 1st April	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever ...	34	43	77
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup ...	37	32	69
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	1	2
Erysipelas ...	5	5	10
Pneumonia ...	16	11	27
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	2	2	4
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	0	1	1
TOTALS ...	95	95	190



Cases notified from the various Wards, for the 3 months ended 31st March, 1938 (prior to extension).

Notified Diseases.	Carlton	Half Acres	Hightown	Redhill	Welbeck	Wheldale	Total
Scarlet Fever ... ..	0	1	0	2	4	1	8
Diphtheria ... ..	1	2	1	11	6	2	23
Enteric Fever ... ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia ... ..	2	1	0	0	1	0	4
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas ... ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total ... ..	3	4	2	13	11	4	37

Cases notified from the various Wards (after extension) for the 9 months ended 31st December, 1938.

Notified Diseases	Airedale	Carlton	Fryston	Glass Houghton	Half Acre	Redhill	Smawthorne	Wheldale—Lock Lane	Whitwood	Whitwood Mere	Total
Scarlet Fever	10	2	6	9	6	8	5	10	4	9	69
Diphtheria ...	5	0	11	9	5	0	3	8	2	3	46
Enteric Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia ...	1	2	0	0	3	1	4	2	5	5	23
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	3
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Erysipelas ...	2	0	0	0	2	0	2	1	1	2	10
Ophthalmia ... Neonatorum	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total ...	18	4	18	19	16	9	14	22	13	20	153

**NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1938.  
SHEWN IN AGE GROUPS.**

NOTIFIED DISEASES	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED												
	At all Ages	At Ages—Years										Cases Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
		Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	Over 65
Scarlet Fever ...	77	0	1	3	5	4	25	20	7	11	1	0	0
Diphtheria ...	69	0	1	4	3	5	26	13	10	4	2	1	0
Erysipelas ...	10	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	6	1
Pneumonia ...	27	1	0	0	1	0	4	2	3	9	2	3	2
Enteric Fever ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0
Ophthalmia													
Neonatorum ...	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Total ...	190	3	3	7	9	9	55	36	21	29	5	10	3
												146	6



## Deaths Due To—

Enteric Fever	...	...	...	0
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	0
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	...			5
Diarrhœa and Enteritis	...	...	...	6
Measles	...	...	...	15
Small-Pox	...	...	...	0
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	1
Total				27

The death rate from the seven above diseases was 0.72 per 1,000 of the population.

The rate for the previous year was 0.101 per 1,000.

## Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

There were two cases notified during the year.

## Tuberculosis.

### New Cases and Mortality during 1938.

Notifi- cations	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
57								
At all Ages	24	20	9	4	11	9	4	3
Under 1 year	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1 to 5 years	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
5 to 10	2	1	3	0	0	2	1	0
10 to 15	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
15 to 20	5	5	1	1	1	1	2	1
20 to 25	5	4	1	0	2	1	0	0
25 to 35	7	5	0	1	4	1	0	1
35 to 45	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	0
45 to 55	1	2	0	0	2	1	0	0
55 to 65	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Over 65 years	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1

Cases were notified from the various Wards as follows :—

(a)—For the 3 months ended 31st March, 1938 :

Ward	Number of Cases
Half Acre ... ..	1
Hightown ... ..	2
Welbeck ... ..	4
Total ...	7

(b)—For the 9 months ended 31st December, 1938 :

Ward	Number of Cases
Airedale ... ..	10
Carlton ... ..	4
Fryston ... ..	5
Glass Houghton ...	8
Half Acre ... ..	5
Red Hill ... ..	1
Smawthorne ...	6
Wheldale—Lock Lane	5
Whitwood ... ..	5
Whitwood Mere ...	1
Total ...	50

It will be seen from the tables above that we had 57 notifications of tuberculosis during the year.

There were 27 deaths from this disease during the year.

No action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, the Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62, nor Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

The following table shows the number of cases on the register at the beginning and at the end of the year.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
No. of cases on the register on the 1st January, 1938 ...	122	54	36	37	249
New cases notified during year	24	20	9	4	57
Cases transferred from Pontefract Rural District ...	90	65	30	28	213
Cases transferred from Whitwood Urban District ...	53	42	14	12	121
Totals ...	289	181	89	81	640
Removed from register during year ... ..	46	32	13	9	100
Remaining on register 31st December, 1938 ... ..	243	149	76	72	540

## Playing Fields, etc.

Your Council has been active in providing playing fields for the young people, and pleasant gardens for the use of elderly persons.

The increased provision of playing fields is definite support of the National Fitness Campaign, and must result in benefit to the young life of the district. The laying out of small gardens, in various parts of the town, must be greatly appreciated by our elderly and infirm people who are unable to travel to our beautiful Queen's Park.



## **Conclusion.**

I would like to say in closing this report how much I value the continued confidence and support given to me by your Council ; I must also thank Mr Birtwisle and his staff for the great help they have given me in keeping the various statistics which occur in the report, and assistance generally in dealing with many matters arising in my work.

I beg to remain,

Yours faithfully,

**WILLIAM KEMP,**

TOWN HALL,

CASTLEFORD.

23rd August, 1939.

M.B., C.M. Edin.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

# Urban District of Castleford.

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## Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector, Year ended 31st December, 1938.

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to place before you my twenty-sixth Annual Report, in which is given a brief review of the work of my Department, and the sanitary conditions obtaining in your District during the year 1938.

### **Housing.**

Notwithstanding the activities of the Council in providing new houses for persons of the working classes, there is still an urgent need for further such houses to be built in the District. Although the area has been greatly enlarged, difficulty is experienced in obtaining suitable sites.

Further prospective action in the direction of clearance areas and demolition of individual unfit houses requires that a progressive supply of new houses should be provided in order to rehouse persons to be displaced.

In August, 1937, I reported that the York Street and Castle Street area was suitable for dealing with as a re-development area, and a formal resolution in that behalf was passed in pursuance of Section 34 of the Housing Act, 1936.

On further consideration it was felt that there would be some difficulty in fulfilling certain of the provisions of Section 34 and it was decided not to proceed with the re-development scheme.

In October, 1938, I further reported that the houses in the area were by reason of disrepair or sanitary defects, unfit for human habitation, or were by reason of their bad arrangement, or the narrowness or bad arrangement of the streets, dangerous or injurious to the health of the inhabitants of the area, and that the other buildings in the area were for a like reason dangerous or injurious to the health of the said inhabitants, and that the most satisfactory method of dealing with the conditions in the area was the demolition of all the buildings in the area. On these grounds I recommended that the area be defined on a map in such manner as to exclude from the area, any building which was not unfit for human habitation or dangerous or injurious to health, and that a resolution be passed declaring the area so defined to be a clearance area in pursuance of Section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936.

It was assumed that the Council would provide suitable accommodation for persons of the working classes in advance of the displacements which would from time to time become necessary as the demolition of buildings in the area was proceeded with.

The recommendation was approved and adopted, and the necessary statutory resolution was passed by the Council, declaring the area to be a clearance area.

Further action was awaited at the end of the year.

The rehousing of persons displaced from the Darling's Yard, Wade's Yard, and Jackson's Yard Clearance Areas, was completed during the year, with the exception of one family in the Jackson's Yard area.

Negotiations for a Compulsory Purchase Order in respect of the Jackson's Yard Area were proceeding at the end of the year.

There were 135 new houses completed during the year ; of these 73 were built by the Local Authority and 62 by private enterprise.

Particulars of other housing work are given below in tabular form.

# Housing Statistics.

## 1. *Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—*

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	445
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose...	1342
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... ..	192
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	520
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses needing further action... Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	135 28
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	107

## 2.—*Remedy of Defects during the Year without service of formal Notices :—*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action of Local Authority or their officers ... ..	99
--	----

## 3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—*

(a).—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	nil
---	-----



(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices ... ..	nil
--	-----

(a) By owners ... ..	nil
----------------------	-----

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners... ..	nil
---	-----

(b).—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	4
---	---

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—

(a) By owners ... ..	nil
----------------------	-----

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners... ..	nil
---	-----

(c).—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of representations, etc., made in respect of dwelling-houses unfit for habitation ...	nil
--	-----

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..	nil
--	-----

(3) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..	22
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(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted from owners

(a) To render houses fit for human habitation ... ..	nil
--	-----

(b) As to usage other than human habitation ... ..	nil
--	-----

(d).—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	...	nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	...	...	nil

4. *Housing Act, 1936. Overcrowding :—*

(a).—(i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	...	376
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	...	475
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	...	2510
(b).—Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	3
(c).—(i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	63
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases...	...	...	...	490
(d).—Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	...	...	nil

The following is a summary of the return submitted to the Ministry of Health of the action taken under the Housing Acts, 1930–36, and the position at the 31st December, 1938.

Part I of the Act. Clearance Areas—

No. of unfit dwelling-houses demolished	54
No. of persons displaced	184

Part II of the Act. Individual Unfit Houses—

No. of dwelling-houses demolished—	
formal action	73

informal action ... ..	26
No. of dwelling-houses closed ... ..	21
Parts of buildings closed ... ..	7
No. of persons displaced from above ...	459
No. of dwelling-houses made fit—	
formal action ... ..	140
informal action ... ..	821

## Inspection and Supervision of Food.

### Milk Supply.

Most of our milk supply is produced outside the District, and attention is therefore confined mainly to distribution by retailers.

Distribution is chiefly from door to door, by means of hand can, replenished from time to time from churns conveyed in motor or horse vehicle. It is pleasing to note, however, that the use of closed bottles is gradually extending to “ordinary” milk in addition to that sold under special designation.

Our retailers are, on the whole, careful in their methods of purveying milk to the public.

No. of Wholesale Traders and Producers of Milk on the Register ... ..	10
No. of Retail Purveyors of Milk on the Register ... ..	52
Total number of Cowsheds in the District	10
Total number of Milk Cows ... ..	140
Total number of Dairy and Cowshed Inspections ... ..	51
Number of “Accredited” Producers ...	1

There were two licences issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936, to sell milk as Pasteurised, one of which is a supplementary licence.

Other bottled milk is sold in a number of shops, described under various names, for which no licence is required.

There is one dairy in the District where pasteurisation of milk is carried on. A new plant was erected during the year and was put into use in July. The plant is capable of an output of 300 gallons per hour ; the present average weekly output is 7,500 gallons, and the average number of bottles filled per week is 120,000.

For the purpose of bacteriological examination, 63 samples of milk were taken, 59 of ordinary milk and 4 of pasteurised milk. They were submitted to the County Bacteriologist at County Hall, Wakefield, and the results of examination are given below.

#### **Bacteriological Examination of Milk.**

Number of samples taken of Ordinary Milk	...	58
Number which satisfied the Methylene blue test	.	
for Accredited Milk	... ..	25
Number of samples taken of Pasteurised Milk	...	4
Number which satisfied Plate Count Test	...	3

All the above-mentioned samples were further subjected to a biological test, and the following results were obtained :—

Ordinary Milk found to be Tuberculous	...	7
Pasteurised Milk found to be Tuberculous	...	2

In addition to the foregoing, 1 sample was taken of Ordinary Milk for biological test only, and this was found to be tuberculous.

The information given below has been kindly supplied by the Officers of the County Council.



# Particulars of Milk Samples found to be Tuberculous.

NUMBER	DATE TAKEN	SUBSEQUENT ACTION AND REMARKS
28	20/6/38	3 individual samples taken by the Veterinary Inspector proved negative.
33	19/7/38	1 sample taken by the Veterinary Inspector proved negative.
40	18/8/38	Premises visited by Veterinary Inspector before result of sample received. One cow slaughtered under Tuberculosis Order.
46	8/9/38	2 cows had been sold between the date of sampling and date of inspection of the herd. Samples taken from remainder of the herd proved negative.
63	1/11/38	6 samples taken by the Veterinary Inspector proved negative.
64	8/11/38	These samples were taken from bulk after pasteurisation, samples Nos. 73 and 76 were taken from sources of supply.
65	9/11/38	
66	9/11/38	Premises visited by Veterinary Inspector. One cow slaughtered under Tuberculosis Order.
73	19/12/38	Premises visited by Veterinary Inspector. One cow slaughtered under Tuberculosis Order.
76	19/12/38	Premises visited by Veterinary Inspector. 2 cows had been sold and 1 sent to a knacker's yard between the date of sampling and date of inspection. One cow slaughtered under Tuberculosis Order.

In each case a sample was taken to close investigations, each giving a negative result.

## Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928.

Under the provisions of this Act, and in addition to the samples taken by the officers of the West Riding County Council, 19 samples of milk were taken on behalf of the Urban District Council and submitted for analysis. Of these one was found not to be genuine ; five others were low in fat content.

During 1938, 33 samples of milk and other foods were taken in Castleford, under the provisions of the above Act, by the officers of the West Riding County Council, particulars of which are given below :

DISTRICT	PERIOD	MILK		OTHER FOODS		TOTAL	
		Genuine	Adulterated	Genuine	Adulterated	Genuine	Adulterated
Castleford U.D.	1st Jan to 31st Mar.	—	—	3	—	3	—
Whitwood	„	—	—	1	—	1	—
Glass Houghton	„	—	—	3	—	3	—
Airedale ...	„	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fryston ...	„	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lock Lane ...	„	3	1	2	—	5	1
Castleford ...	1st April to 31st December	10	1	9	—	19	1
		13	*2	18	—	31	*2

\* Cautions were issued where deemed necessary.

I have to thank the Officers of the County Council for this information.

*The following is a Special Report which I submitted to your Council in January last and is included in this Report as an item of special interest.*

## **“The Food and Drugs Act, 1938.**

As your Officer charged with the duty of inspection of food, and the safeguarding of food supplies, it seems fitting that I should submit a short report on the above-mentioned enactment.

The Act contains 103 sections, and will come into force on the first day of October, 1939 ; it is designed to make many changes in the law relating to Food and Drugs.

### **Historical.**

While its aim is chiefly consolidation of the existing law now spread over 36 Acts, a large number of minor amendments have been made, and certain Acts have been repealed in whole or in part.

The repeals go back to an Act of 1540, which enabled four physicians yearly to inspect the houses of apothecaries for impure drugs, and they include Acts of the early 18th century on the adulteration of tea and coffee, and Acts of the early 19th century on the contents of bread and the control of knackers' yards.

The inspection of meat and slaughter-houses was provided for in the great Public Health Act, 1875, while recent law concerning the adulteration of food and drugs was largely based on the Food and Drugs Act of 1875.

Regulations as to food are almost as old as civilization itself, and it was early recognized that animals which die without bleeding may be a source of food poisoning. Indeed it is recorded in Deuteronomy XIV, 21, that Moses commanded his people as follows :—“ Ye shall not eat of anything that dieth of itself : thou shalt give it unto the stranger that is in thy gates, that he may eat it ; or thou mayest sell it unto an alien.” Poor stranger.

The “ Assize of Bread ” in England dates back to King John and from his time up to the present the adulteration of flour, meal or bread has been a punishable offence.



The protection of milk from adulteration was attempted in the Food and Drugs Act, 1875, and was dealt with in many succeeding regulations, but these generally paid regard to its chemical constituents only, and in point of fact they still remain the principal basis of legal action.

The law relating to milk has been chiefly directed towards :—

- (a) Regulation of chemical composition and quality.
- (b) Maintaining of bacteriological purity.
- (c) Prevention of milk acting as a vehicle for spread of disease.

Broadly the law relating to food and drugs is intended to achieve two distinct objects, viz :—the safeguarding of public health, and the protection of purchasers from fraud and deception.

### **Authorities.**

Two classes of Authorities are concerned with the working of the Act, viz :—the Local Authority and the Food and Drugs Authority.

Outside London the term “ local authority ” means the Council of any borough, urban, or rural district, while the expression “ Food and Drugs Authority ” means the county council, a county borough council, and the council of any non-county borough or urban district having a population of 40,000 or upwards.

The Urban District Council of Castleford becomes therefore a “ Food and Drugs Authority ” and in consequence becomes an authority under the Merchandise Marks Act, 1926, also.

Under certain provisos, a county council may retain their powers in a county district where the population is upwards of 40,000, and conversely a non-county borough or urban district council where the population is between 20,000 and 40,000 may if the Minister of Health so direct, become a “ Food and Drugs Authority.”

The earlier Food and Drugs legislation regarded administration as a police matter, and one of the deciding factors was the possession of a separate police establishment. In the new Act, administration is looked upon as a normal Public Health function.



Generally the sampling officers of the Food and Drugs Authority will do the work of sampling as being charged with the duty of enforcement, but an "authorised officer" of a local authority is a sampling officer and may take samples and have them examined.

### **Appeals and Penalties.**

Appeals are to a Court of Summary Jurisdiction and to Quarter Sessions, except in matters of milk licensing, imported food, and in the case of shell-fish where the appeal is to the Minister of Health.

With certain exceptions penalties have been made uniform, viz :—

1st Offence—Maximum £20.

Subsequent Offences—Maximum £100 and/or 3 months imprisonment.

### **Public Analysts.**

Every Food and Drugs Authority is required to appoint a public analyst, and such officer shall be in the possession of "either the prescribed qualifications or such other qualifications as the Minister may approve."

It is suggested that a new Food and Drugs Authority might well, in the interests of efficiency and convenience appoint the same public analyst as the County Council.

Copies of the public analyst's quarterly reports are to be sent to the Minister.

### **Sampling.**

The Sanitary Inspector and the Medical Officer of Health are "authorised officers" for the purpose of sampling by virtue of their appointments, but the authority may appoint others as "sampling officers" if they so desire.

The number of samples required to be taken in this district would be about 140 to 150 per annum. These would be taken from all kinds of food and drugs with special attention to milk, this being the most frequent subject of adulteration.

The sampling officer is not now compelled to submit formal samples for analysis, but may submit such as he may think necessary.

### **Unsound Food.**

The former list of articles of food which might be the subject of seizure and condemnation has now been brought under the one expression "food." Procedure is largely the same as before except that the vendor must now be informed by the officer of his intention to have the seized food dealt with by a justice, and he must be allowed to call witnesses. This was formerly an optional administrative practice but it is now made obligatory.

The meaning of "Authorised Officer" is extended, but in practice it will be confined as before to the Sanitary Inspector, Medical Officer of Health, and to a Veterinary Surgeon specially appointed for the purpose of meat inspection.

### **Slaughter-Houses, &c.**

The new Act, requires all slaughter-houses (including the old registered slaughter-houses) to be licensed annually and is a distinct advance in this respect. In the case of a former Registered slaughter-house, the licence is to be renewed automatically, unless either the applicant or the premises are unsuitable.

The power of a local authority to provide a public slaughter-house is re-enacted, and the principle of compensation for the compulsory closing of slaughter-houses is adopted.

The provisions are of particular importance in this district where a public slaughter-house is urgently needed.

### **Cleansing of Shell-Fish.**

It is of interest to note that the Public Health (Cleansing of Shell-Fish) Act, 1932, based upon earlier regulations, is reproduced in its essentials.

The earlier regulations were partly the outcome of action taken in this district during an outbreak of typhoid fever in 1914.

## General.

Other matters covered by the new Act include right of entry, obstruction, warranty, food-poisoning, milk, dairies and artificial cream, bread and flour, ice-cream and preserved food, horse-flesh, markets, knackers'-yards, etc.

The foregoing has been written with a view to giving a broad picture of the objects proposed to be achieved under the Act, and technical details and references to sections have been purposely omitted. These are given in the Third Interim Report, price 1/-, and the Ministry's Circular 1755, price 2d.

The administration of its various provisions will entail much additional work in my Department, but I am sure this will be loyally undertaken by the officers concerned.

The new and additional powers for the protection of food generally constitute a marked advance in public health legislation"

## Meat and Other Foods.

The inspection of meat and other foods received constant attention throughout the year. The work entailed a considerable amount of overtime duty being performed by the staff of this Department. Inspections were made in the early mornings, late evenings and on Sundays, in addition to those made in regular office hours, in order to ensure that all meat passing through the slaughter-houses to the shops should be sound and wholesome.

Number of visits paid to slaughter-houses	...	1123
Number of visits paid to shops and stalls	...	103
Number of visits paid to other premises	...	28
Special visits paid to butchers	... ..	50
Special visits paid to fishmongers	... ..	13

There was one prosecution during the year, viz :—for depositing unsound meat for the purpose of sale, or of preparation for sale



and intended for the food of man. A conviction was obtained and a penalty of £5 imposed.

The case was one in which a beast had been slaughtered in another area, and before it could be inspected, the meat was brought into our Market.

It was due to the vigilance of one of my assistants, that the meat was seen in the Market shop, where it was found to be in a state of emaciation and quite unfit for human consumption.

Complaints were received of a case of infringement of the Imported Meat Regulations in respect of the labelling of imported meat. The West Riding County Council, who are the authority under these Regulations, were communicated with, and arrangements made to co-operate with their officers in investigating the complaints. Legal action was taken which resulted in a conviction. A member of my staff gave evidence in this case.

The butchers' shops are mostly kept in a clean condition. Constant watch is necessary in respect of ready killed meat brought into the Town as regards both soundness and the manner in which it is conveyed. There is still room for improvement in the cleanliness of vehicles and meat wrappers.

The number of private slaughter-houses in the district is 18, all subject to annual licence.

Under modern conditions of transport, and with well-designed premises and slaughtering apparatus, it is believed there would be less inconvenience to those concerned in the meat trade than is generally supposed; the advantage from the standpoint of inspection and the ensuring of all slaughtering being done under hygienic conditions, is beyond question. In view of the fact that the number of private slaughter-houses in the district has increased from 12 to 18, the provisions of the above-mentioned Act are of particular importance in this district where a public slaughter-house is urgently needed.



The Council in accordance with the provisions of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, passed a resolution to continue the application of Section 1 of the above Act, to sheep, ewes, wethers, rams and lambs. A new resolution to that effect has since been passed, and was rendered necessary by the operation of Section 2 (4) (a) (11) of the Act, in view of the extension of the area under the County Review Order.

The number of slaughter-men we have licensed is 56.

## Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excl'g Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Number inspected ...	366	633	18	1101	3332
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis</i>					
Whole carcases condemned ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	5
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	4	5	Nil	6	11
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis ...	1.09	0.73	Nil	0.64	0.48
<i>Tuberculosis only</i>					
Whole carcases condemned...	2	14	Nil	Nil	10
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned...	14	93	1	Nil	146
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	4.32	16.90	5.55	Nil	4.68

## Diseases.

			ANIMALS AFFECTED			
			Beasts	Sheep	Pigs	TOTAL
Tuberculosis	...	...	124	—	156	280
Erysipelas	...	...	—	—	3	3
Abscesses	...	...	4	—	—	4
Angiomatosis	...	...	2	—	—	2
Cirrhosis	...	...	2	6	6	14
Pleurisy	...	...	—	—	4	4
Fevered	...	...	—	1	—	1
Pneumonia	...	...	—	—	1	1
Nephritis	...	...	1	—	—	1
Uraemia	...	...	—	—	2	2

## Carcases, part carcases and organs condemned.

		Beasts	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	TOTAL
Carcases	...	16	—	1	15	32
Forequarters	...	26	—	—	4	30
Hindquarters	...	7	—	—	—	7
Briskets	...	2	—	—	—	2
Buttocks	...	2	—	—	—	2
Heads	...	43	—	—	134	177
Plucks	...	—	1	—	52	53
Lungs	...	78	—	—	1	79
Livers	...	53	—	6	9	68
Kidneys	...	43	—	—	4	47
Udders	...	4	—	—	—	4

Other Foodstuffs surrendered as being unfit for human consumption were as follows :—

- 5 Tins Pressed Briskets of Beef.
- 30 Dozen Eggs.
- 79 Boxes of Smoked Haddocks.
- 13 Tins of Prawns.
- 4 Kits of Herrings.
- 270 Rabbits.

In accordance with the decision of the Council, meat surrendered as being unfit for human consumption is, after treatment so as to render it inedible, removed to a manufactory, where it is converted for use in industrial processes.

Where the meat is comparatively small in quantity it is passed through the Council's incinerator.

There is a considerable wholesale fish trade done in the Town. Four firms have wholesale warehouses, to which fish is brought daily from the ports, and supplied to a large number of retailers in the Town and in the surrounding district.

Supplies in general are of excellent quality.

## **Fish Frying.**

The trade or business of a fish fryer was declared an offensive trade by your Council in 1927.

There are 60 fish frying establishments on the register, the number having increased by the extension of the district.

The majority of the shops and premises are maintained in a cleanly condition, and the modern practice of buying fish ready gutted and filleted has obviated much of the former liability to create nuisance by the retention of decomposing fish offal on the premises.

All frying pans are of the closed type.

The officials of the local Fish Friers' Organization keep in close touch with the Department, and frequently discuss with us matters affecting their trade and commodities supplied to the community. The spirit of co-operation shewn here is very helpful.

## **Water Supply.**

This has received attention during the year and samples have been taken as seemed necessary.

Misgivings had for some time been felt as to the condition of the water in the open reservoir at Red Hill, and as a result of bacteriological and chemical examination its use was and has since been discontinued.



The samples taken from the town's mains gave satisfactory results.

Certain temporary dwellings in the transferred areas were found to be supplied from surface wells and springs.

These were sampled and all found to be unsatisfactory. The persons using these supplies were warned of the character of the water, advised to obtain satisfactory supplies, and in the meantime to boil all water used for drinking and cooking purposes.

The dwelling-houses in question will be dealt with under the Housing Acts at an early date with a view to demolition.

The results of examination are shewn below.

## Bacteriological Examination.

### Samples from Public Supplies.

No.	Date	Sample taken from	No. of presumptive B. coli in 100 ml. of water	Remarks
5	1st Mar.	Redhill reservoir	None.	Satisfactory
16	19th July	do.	do.	do.
17	16th Aug.	do.	180	Unsatisfactory
18	8th Sept.	do.	50	do.
24	17th Oct.	do.	none	Satisfactory
31	21st Nov.	do.	17	Unsatisfactory
19	8th Sept.	Tap on Town's Sup'y	none	Satisfactory
20	do.	do.	do.	do.

By the standards of the Ministry of Health, the presence of more than 10 Presumptive B. Coli per 100 m.l., indicates that the supply is exposed to serious and possibly dangerous pollution. In view of this, the use of the Red Hill reservoir was discontinued.

### Samples from Wells and Springs.

No.	Date	Sample taken from	No. of presumptive B. coli in 100 ml. of water	Remarks
9	15th June	Spring, Carr Wood, Glass Houghton	None	Satisfactory
10	do	Well, Carr Wood, Glass Houghton	1800+	Unsatisfactory
11	do.	do.	1	Satisf't'y
12	do.	do.	1	do.
13	do.	Well, Flass Lane, Glass Houghton	1800+	Unsatisfactory
22	20th Sept.	Well, Gillatt's Quarry, Glass Houghton	35	do.
26	1st Nov.	Spring, Carr Wood, Glass Houghton	20	do.
27	do.	Well, Carr Wood, Glass Houghton	45	do.
28	do.	do.	30	do.
29	do.	do.	95	do.

Numbers 26, 27 and 29 were repeat samples following numbers 9, 11 and 12 respectively.

### Chemical Analysis.

A sample taken from the Red Hill reservoir on August 16th, 1938, gave the following results :—

Total Solid Matters	...	...	11.0
Chlorine (combined)	...	...	0.8
Nitrites	...	...	None
Nitrogen as Nitrates	...	...	None
Free Ammonia	...	...	0.0035
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	0.0014
Lead, Copper, Zinc	...	...	None
Total Hardness (Clark's Scale)			3.2
p.H.	...		7.6

The chemical data were satisfactory, indicating the absence of any gross pollution, but a preliminary bacteriological test revealed the presence of faecal organisms.

## Bacteriological Examination.

### Public Swimming Baths :

No.	Date	Presumptive B.Coli in 100 ml. of water	p.H. value	Free Chlorine in 1,000,000 parts of water	REMARKS.
7	5th April	None	Not stated	Not stated	Unsatisfactory (Temporary stoppage of water supply)
8	3rd May	None	7.3	0.5	
14	20th June	None	5.8	None	
15	5th July	110	6.7	None	
17	19th July	None	7.4	0.2	
17a	16th Aug.	None	Not stated	Not stated	
21	20th Sept.	None	Not stated	Not stated	
23	4th Oct.	None	Not stated	Not stated	
25	17th Oct.	None	Not stated	Not stated	
30	21st Nov.	None	7.2	None	

The standards laid down by the Ministry of Health, as to the purity of the water in swimming baths are as follows :—

The water should contain not less than 0.2 nor more than 0.5 parts per million of free chlorine. Water with this free chlorine content which has been efficiently clarified by filtration will give satisfactory bacteriological counts approximating to drinking water standards.

The water should be kept alkaline in reaction, and the pH value should be 7.6—8.

## Public Cleansing and Transport.

All the figures under this heading refer to the year ended 31st March, 1939.

It will be appreciated that the extensions to the area have carried with them extensions to the services.



In respect of the transferred areas, refuse collection was carried out by direct labour in the Whitwood area only, in the remaining areas, the work was done by contract.

During the year the contract for the Lock Lane area expired and was not renewed, the work being done by the Department direct.

The main roads in the transferred areas remained under the control of the County Council throughout the year with the exception of Lock Lane.

During the year certain additions or renewals were made to the motor vehicles. Two Karrier CK3 three-ton chassis equipped with "Derby" type refuse collection bodies were purchased, together with a Karrier 750 gallon vacuum gulley and cesspool emptier. This latter was found necessary to deal with the additional gullies and cesspools in the transferred areas.

One "Manchester" 30/35 cwt truck was scrapped during the year.

Once again certain of the old types of street sweepers' carts were withdrawn and their places taken by modern street orderly appliances of attractive appearance; in addition two new mechanical gritters were purchased.

The policy of fleet renewals is still necessary and I am again glad to note that some provision has been made in this regard in the last annual estimates.

The paper salvage scheme inaugurated during the previous year was maintained throughout the year. The results obtained failed to give complete satisfaction and midway through the year two youths were substituted for one adult for operating the baling machine. This has given an increased output and more satisfactory results are expected.

The ambulance service, so well appreciated in the past, had of necessity to meet an increased number of calls during the year. In the former Whitwood area a contract existed with a local garage proprietor for the use of a private ambulance; this expired during the year and was not renewed. In the remainder of the



transferred areas no such service existed. In order to deal with the increased number of cases, a second ambulance was found necessary and a new " Renault " vehicle was purchased. The two ambulances have given and continue to give excellent service.

The year under review has brought to the Public Cleansing Service a new form of responsibility, viz :—The Decontamination Service in connection with Civil Defence. During the course of the year the men of the department were invited to volunteer for this service and a ready response was received. Thirty men were enrolled and received anti-gas training and decontamination drill. The new gulley emptier is fully equipped for this class of work, being fitted with street, footpath, channel and wall washers, auxiliary fire hose, pressure pump and suction hose.

Training is still to be carried on and volunteers from the civilian population are to be incorporated into the service. The department is required to furnish five squads each of seven men (including driver) together with a reserve strength. It is expected that we will shortly be up to strength and fully trained,.

**Public Cleansing Costings.**

**Refuse Collection and Disposal.**

Refuse collected during the year was as follows :—

DIRECT LABOUR—			Tons	Cwts.
Ashbins and Dry Ashpits	...	...	11,434	16
Ashpits (wet)	...	...	993	7
Shop refuse	...	...	837	1
Cesspools	...	...	1,894	0
CONTRACTORS—				
Ashbins and Dry Ashpits	...	...	7,004	6
Ashpits (wet)	...	...	418	10
Total			22,582	0

The cost of this was £6,089 0s. 7d.

Market refuse removed during the year was 425 tons 18 cwts., the cost of which was borne by the Markets Committee. In addition to this, tradespeople and others conveyed to the destructor some

1,400 tons of trade refuse. Destructor ash removed to the tips was 112 tons 5 cwts., whilst the cleansing of the grit-arrester trap necessitated the removal of some 15 tons of mud and water. The cost of this was charged against the Destructor.

The refuse was disposed of as follows :—

At the various tips :				Tons	Cwts.
Ashbins and Dry Ashpits	...	...	...	18,439	2
Ashpits (wet)	...	...	...	1,411	17
Destructor Ash, &c.	...	...	...	127	3
Street Sweepings	...	...	...	991	8
				<hr/>	<hr/>
				20,969	10
				<hr/>	<hr/>
Add soil for covering	...	...	...	1,439	19
				<hr/>	<hr/>
Total				22,409	9
				<hr/>	<hr/>

At a cost of £832 8s. 3d.

At the Destructor :				Tons	Cwts.
Shop refuse	...	...	...	837	1
Market refuse	...	...	...	425	18
General Trade waste	...	...	...	1,401	5
				<hr/>	<hr/>
Total				2,664	4
				<hr/>	<hr/>

At a cost of £439 14s. 3d.

### By Salvage.

Amount of paper baled was 92 tons 16 cwts. The cost of this was £145 19s. 6d. and produced an income of £108 12s. 8d., leaving a nett cost of £37 6s. 10d.

The total costs charged to the Refuse Collection and Disposal Account was £7,398 9s. 11d.

## ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE.

Collection—		GROSS EXPENDITURE.			INCOME.			NETT EXPENDITURE.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Wages—Fillers	...	2060	3	8	3	0	0	2057	3	8
Drivers	...	1051	0	6				1051	0	6
Tools, Powder, etc.	...	24	14	9				24	14	9
Transport	...	1388	5	2				1388	5	2
Contracts ...	...	1376	18	4				1376	18	4
Cesspool Cleansing	...	190	18	2				190	18	2
		6092	0	7				6089	0	7
<b>Disposal—</b>										
<b>Destructor :</b>										
Wages	...	207	5	8	0	7	6	206	18	2
Repairs	...	19	3	6				19	3	6
Fuel	...	36	13	4	25	0	0	11	13	4
Transport, etc.	...	15	12	4				15	12	4
Loan Charges	...	186	6	11				186	6	11
		465	1	9				439	14	3
<b>Tips :</b>										
Wages	...	711	19	9	1	2	6	710	17	3
Tools, Repairs, etc.	...	39	3	6				39	3	6
Transport, etc.	...	82	7	6				82	7	6
		833	10	9				832	8	3
<b>Paper Salvage :</b>										
Wages, etc.	...	145	19	6	108	12	8	37	6	10
		145	19	6				37	6	10
<b>Totals</b>	...	£7536	12	7	£138	2	8	£7398	9	11

## STANDARD COSTS

	COLLECTION			DISPOSAL			TOTAL		
Nett Expenditure :—	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
A.—Cost as rate in the pound	0	0	9.01	0	0	1.94	0	0	10.95
B.—(i) Cost per ton ... ..	0	5	5.0	0	1	0	0	6	5
(ii) Cost per 1,000 population (Estimated at 43,090)	141	12	1	30	9	1	172	1	2
(iii) Cost per 1,000 premises (Estimated at 12,000)	507	8	4	109	2	5	616	10	9

C.—Weight of refuse per 1,000 population per day—28.7 cwts.

## CLEANSING COSTS FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934
Nett Expenditure	£7398 9 11	£3934 7 5	£3575 18 6	£3577 10 10	£4138 3 9
Cost as rate in the £	10.95d.	11.05d.	10.04d.	10.22d.	10.39d.
Cost per ton ...	6s./5d.	8s./1.3d.	7s./6.4d.	6s./6.7d.	7s./9.2d.
Cost per 1,000 pop.	£172 1 2	£197 14 0	£170 5 7	£162 11 6	£188 1 10
Cost per 1,000 premises cleansed	£616 10 9	£715 6 8	£650 3 4	£650 9 2	£827 12 9
Weight (in cwts) per 1,000 pop. per day	28.7	25.1	24.3	22.4	25.9

## Street Cleansing.

The service includes :—

- (a) Street Cleansing.
- (b) Gulley Cleansing.
- (c) Street Gritting.
- (d) Snow Removal.

For the information of the Council, the methods adopted are described below.

## Street Sweeping and Gulley Cleansing.

As before, the work was done under a combination of gang and beat systems.



· Sixteen sweepers were engaged full time, and one sweeper part time, each having his own allotted beat.

On each week-day the principal shopping streets were swept prior to business hours, and for this purpose nine sweepers were employed in two gangs for one and a half hours approximately. The sweepings were at once collected by means of a motor vehicle.

On the completion of this work the gangs broke up and each man attended to his own beat or district.

In the transferred areas each sweeper was responsible for his own beat or district.

The sweepers were each furnished with a hand bin cart, carrying two bins, and their sweepings were, except in certain districts, picked up twice daily by the motor vehicles engaged on house refuse collection.

The principal streets of the District are also swept during the early hours of Sunday morning.

Every effort is made to keep the Town in a clean and tidy condition, but a little more consideration on the part of the general public, in refraining from scattering litter and allowing dogs to foul the footpaths, would greatly facilitate the work, enhance the appearance of the streets, and at the same time reduce the charge on the rates which they must pay.

In reporting on this service, it should be remembered that it is of necessity a growing one. The making up and taking over of private streets as public highways must create more work and the cost of the service will therefore increase in proportion to activity under the Private Street Works Act.

Work done under this head during the present year was as follows :—

Total length swept	...	10,280,985 lineal yards.
Total area (excluding footpaths)		74,721,844 square yards.

At a cost of £3,015 16s. 4d.

This figure includes work done on both district and county roads. The West Riding County Council continues to pay in respect of county roads a lump sum of £50 per mile for that part of street

cleansing coming under the heading of maintenance. This is, of course, quite irrespective of the gross cost, and involves a nett charge to the accounts of the Local Authorities.

The following shows the lengths of streets to be swept :—

Twice per day	...	...	2,639 yds.
Once per day	...	...	13,320 yds.
At least three times per week			6,302 yds.
At least twice per week	...		9,655 yds.
At least once per week	...		23,341 yds.

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Total length swept	...		55,257 yds.
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During the past year the gullies in the area have been cleansed partly by the vacuum gulley emptiers and partly by contractors employing the hand scoop and pan-cart method. The purchase of the 750 gallon vehicle has now brought the whole of the work of gulley emptying under the vacuum system.

Gullies cleansed during the year were as follows :—

By vacuum gulley emptier	...	12,207
By contractors	...	10,255

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Total	...	22,462
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At a cost of £549 14 2d.

### Street Gritting and Snow Removal.

During the months of December and January severe weather made gritting imperative on many occasions and also necessitated the removal of several falls of snow.

The regular staff was augmented by casual labour and every effort made to keep the roads in the district safe for traffic and clean for the general public.

The expenditure on the County Roads incurred under this heading is fully recoverable from the County Council.

The total cost of gritting was £467 0s. 5d. and of snow-removal<sup>1</sup> £624 6s. 8d., of which the County Council refunded £56 19s. 3d. and £132 4s. 1d. respectively.

# STREET CLEANSING. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE.

GROSS EXPENDITURE.				INCOME.		NETT EXPENDITURE.				
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
<b>Sweeping—</b>										
Wages ...	...	2791 0 10			1 0 0		2790 0 10			
Tools ...	...	115 8 1			7 4 0		108 4 1			
Carts ...	...	72 16 9			1 19 3		70 17 6			
Miscellaneous ...	...	0 1 11					0 1 11			
Transport ...	...	151 12 0					151 12 0			
		<u>3130 19 7</u>								
<b>Gulley Cleansing—</b>										
Wages ...	...	310 9 2					310 9 2			
Transport ...	...	244 1 1					244 1 1			
		<u>554 10 3</u>							3675 6 7	
		<u>3685 9 10</u>							<u>3675 6 7</u>	
Income from use of Gulley Emptyier ...	...				4 16 1		<i>less</i>		109 16 1	
Income from W.R.C.C. ...	...				105 0 0					
		<u>3685 9 10</u>					119 19 4		<u>3565 10 6</u>	
<b>Gritting—</b>										
Wages ...	...	120 9 3			10 16 9		109 12 6			
Transport ...	...	56 13 11			15 14 0		40 19 11			
Materials ...	...	235 18 2			62 17 9		173 0 5			
New Machines ...	...	53 19 1					53 19 1			
		<u>467 0 5</u>					89 8 6		<u>377 11 11</u>	
<b>Snow Removal—</b>										
Wages ...	...	501 13 11			92 0 4		409 13 7			
Transport ...	...	122 12 9			40 3 9		82 9 0			
		<u>624 6 8</u>					132 4 1		<u>492 2 7</u>	
<b>Total ...</b>	...	<u>£4776 16 11</u>					<u>£341 11 11</u>		<u>£4435 5 0</u>	

# STANDARD COSTS.

## REVENUE ACCOUNT—

	Street Sweeping.	Gully Cleansing.	Gritting.	Snow Removal.	TOTAL.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Gross Expenditure ...	3130 19 7	554 10 3	467 0 5	624 6 8	4776 16 11
Gross Income ...	115 3 3	4 16 1	89 8 6	132 4 1	341 11 11
NETT COST ...	£3015 16 4	£549 14 2	£377 11 11	£492 2 7	£4435 5 0

## UNIT COSTS—

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Nett cost per 10,000 square yards cleansed ...	0 7 11½			0 7 11½
Nett cost per 1,000 gulleys cleansed ...		24 9 5		24 9 5
Nett cost per 1,000 of population...	69 19 9	12 15 2	8 15 3	11 8 5
				102 18 7

## Rate Poundage :

Nett cost, equivalent rate in the pound ...	0 0 4.47	0 0 0.82	0 0 0.55	0 0 0.73	0 0 6.57
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## **Transport Work.**

This service is now fully mechanised and comprises :—

- 5 Manchester 30-35 cwt. vehicles.
- 2 Bedford 30 cwt. vehicles.
- 1 Ford 30 cwt. vehicle.
- 1 Karrier “ Falcon ” 3 tonner.
- 2 Karrier “ Derby ” 3 tonners.
- 1 Karrier Gulley Emptier, 400 gallons capacity.
- 1 Karrier Gulley Emptier, 750 gallons capacity.
- 1 Dodge Van.
- 1 Ford Van.

The ambulances are, of course, in addition to the above.

During the year it was found necessary to hire two horses for the purpose of gulley cleansing, and several motor vehicles for street cleansing during the severe winter weather.

## **Work done during the Year.**

### **Motor Lorries.**

The work carried out by our lorries was as follows :—

Shifts worked : 2,721. Loads hauled : 19,578, giving an estimated tonnage of 24,620 tons 19 cwts. and an estimated mileage of 69,519. During the period 11,951 gallons of petrol and 1,811 pints of oil were consumed.

### **Motor Vans.**

During the year the Ford van was employed full time by the Electricity Department, whilst the Dodge van was employed on work of a miscellaneous nature.

Work done by these two vehicles is as follows :—

Shifts worked : 111½. Journeys made : 2,044, giving an estimated mileage of 8,824. During the period 728½ gallons of petrol and 67 pints of oil were consumed.

## Gulley Emptiers.

The Karrier 400 gallon machine worked throughout the year, whilst the 750 gallon vehicle was operating during the months of February and March.

Work done by these vehicles was as follows :—

Shifts worked :  $232\frac{2}{3}$ . Gullies cleansed : 12,207. Other material removed : 2,094 tons 16 cwts. Mileage : 3,519. During the period 893 gallons of petrol and 189 pints of oil were consumed.

Haulage done for the various services was as follows :—

				Tons	Cwts.
Ashbins and Dry Ashpits	...	...	...	11,434	16
Wet Ashpits	...	...	...	993	7
Shop Refuse	...	...	...	837	1
Market Refuse	...	...	...	425	18
Destructor Residue	...	...	...	127	3
Tips	...	...	...	1,333	19
Street Cleansing	...	...	...	991	8
Street Gritting	...	...	...	569	13
Snow Removal	...	...	...	789	15
Cesspools	...	...	...	1,894	2
Housing Removals	...	...	...	30	8
A.R.P.	...	...	...	485	16
Sanitary Department, General	...	...	...	131	2
Street Repairs	...	...	...	4,120	12
Sewerage and Sewage Disposal	...	...	...	630	7
Waterworks	...	...	...	472	19
Housing, General	...	...	...	150	2
Baths	...	...	...	182	16
Park	...	...	...	25	4
Recreation Grounds	...	...	...	1,306	1
Town Hall	...	...	...	56	19
Cemeteries	...	...	...	38	3
Surveyor's Department, Miscellaneous	...	...	...	258	7
Total				27,287	4

**The Analysis of Expenditure was as follows :—**

				1937			1938		
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Wages	...	...	...	438	5	5	...	476	16 0
Rates and Insurances	...	...	...	129	11	3	...	138	16 0
Licences	...	...	...	293	2	6	...	489	4 7
Petrol and Oil	...	...	...	766	17	1	...	1064	1 0
Repairs—Buildings	...	...	...	22	12	1	...	72	15 8
Motors	...	...	...	185	15	7	...	492	13 5
Tools, etc.	...	...	...	23	19	10	...	23	2 0
Light and Heat	...	...	...	60	15	10	...	60	7 8
New Motors	...	...	...	55	0	0	...	0	0 0
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	2	18	2	...	0	0 0
Property Tax	...	...	...	22	1	3	...	0	0 0
Aketon Road Widening...	...	...	...	13	3	4	...	0	0 0
Gulley Emptier (Loan Charges)	...	...	...	89	12	11	...	*107	5 10
				<hr/>			<hr/>		
				2103	15	3	...	2923	3 2
Less Income				135	16	4	...	398	17 4
				<hr/>			<hr/>		
				£1967	18	11		£2524	5 10
				<hr/>			<hr/>		

\* Charged to Other Services.

The figure shown for wages is in respect of administration and repairs ; it does not include drivers' wages.

The cost of haulage on the foregoing figures was at the rate of 1/10.2d. per ton in 1938, as compared with 2/0.5d. in 1937.

The nett expenditure was charged out proportionately to the various services of the Council.

## **Motor Ambulance Service.**

During the course of the year the work of this service was carried on by both vehicles owned by the Local Authority and by private contractor. On the termination of the existing contract, all cases have been conveyed in our own ambulances. The Austin ambulance continues to give excellent service and the purchase of a Renault vehicle during the year has provided an excellent auxiliary.

The number of cases removed and the miles travelled during the year are as follows :—

By Own Ambulances	1,243 calls—18,249 miles.
By Contractor	... 368 calls—Mileage not available.
<hr/>	
Total	1,611 calls
<hr/>	

The costs for the year were as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Wages	199	18	11
Insurance	10	3	0
Telephone	14	17	11
Petrol and Oil	93	6	7
Repairs	61	18	6
Miscellaneous	9	3	2
Hired Ambulance	166	13	0
Loan Charges	98	12	2
<hr/>			
	654	13	3
Less Income	4	0	0
<hr/>			
	£650	13	3
Add for standing charges, proportion of rates and taxes, lights, etc.	40	0	0
<hr/>			
	£690	13	3
<hr/>			

The gross cost of our own ambulances—6.88d. per mile.

Figures for the last three years (own ambulances only) were as follows :—

	1936	1937	1938
Number of calls	708	757	1,243
Hours of Driving	1,360	1,976½	2,555½
Mileage	10,198	17,559	18,249
Petrol Consumption	702	808	1,195
Miles per gallon	14.5	21.73	15.27



## **Disinfection and Disinfestation.**

The steam disinfecter installed some years ago was continued in service throughout the year. It is of a type which is now obsolete, and should be replaced by one of modern design at the first opportunity.

House disinfection was done by means of spraying, and fumigation with formalin vapour.

Disinfection of schools by spraying was done from time to time as deemed desirable.

In connection with re-housing, the scheme of disinfestation inaugurated in 1936 is still proceeding.

The use of the three compartment hut and the converted motor vehicle was continued.

It has been found possible to disinfest the effects of two to three families per day, the goods being restored to their owners ready for use on the evening of the day of removal.

The treatment consists of spraying and fumigation by the use of proprietary insecticides, and the passing of bedding through the steam disinfecter.

The furniture and effects of 112 families were so treated and with good results.

In addition to the work done in respect of families transferred to Council-owned houses, attention was given to other occupied dwellings. In this connection 12 Council-owned houses and 16 privately owned houses were found to be infested with bed-bugs and were subjected to a process of disinfestation.

The whole of the work, whether in occupied houses or in course of removal, was carried out by the Department through its regular staff of employees, close supervision of the work being maintained.

## **Public Conveniences**

At Bradley Street, the premises in general are open daily from 8-0 a.m. to 11 p.m., when attendants are on duty in both the men's and the women's sections.

The new urinal accommodation outside the main building is open at all times.

There is need for the provision of further public sanitary conveniences in various parts of the district.

The premises in connection with the Fish and Meat Market are in daily use, with an attendant in the women's section.

The expenditure and income as compared with the previous year are given below :—

	1937			1938		
	£	d.	s.	£	s.	d.
Wages ... ..	309	4	10	330	18	1
Tools, Requisites, etc.	18	5	0	27	7	10
Repairs ... ..	14	4	2	21	17	4
Heat and Light ...	28	15	6	28	6	7
Miscellaneous ...	0	14	2	1	2	5
Loan Charges ...	82	0	0	83	19	4
Weighing Machine ...	2	2	0	1	19	0
Bradley St. Extension	101	7	7	0	0	0
	<hr/>			<hr/>		
	556	13	3	495	10	7
Less Income... ..	158	7	3	137	19	3
	<hr/>			<hr/>		
Net Expenditure ...	£398	6	0	£357	11	4
	<hr/>			<hr/>		

All the other public urinals in the town, seven in number, were cleansed twice daily.

## Drainage, Sewerage and Sanitary Alterations.

The sewerage of the district is partly on the separate and partly on the combined systems. Improvements and repairs are carried out from time to time as required, and particularly in connection with the making up of private streets.

Drainage works to both new and old buildings were carefully supervised during the year.

Your Officers endeavour to secure that the plumbing work executed during the erection of, and alterations to buildings, shall be of a good standard.

Works carried out during the year 1938 are summarised below :—

Privies abolished (redundant) ...	...	4
Privies converted into water-closets ...	...	1
Slop-closets converted into water-closets		1
Pail closets converted ...	...	0
Water-closets abolished ...	...	8
Water-closets (additional) provided to existing buildings ...	...	4
Water-closets provided to new buildings...		135
Drains and water-closets re-constructed or repaired ...	...	42
Drains, water-closets, etc., opened or cleansed ...	...	164
Ashpits (wet) abolished ...	...	4
Ashpits (dry) abolished ...	...	1
Ashbins provided in substitution for ashpits ...	...	1
Number of " chemical " closets (new) ...		1
Ashbins provided to new buildings ...		135
Ashbins abolished ...	...	7

The types of sanitary conveniences existing at the close of the year are estimated as follows :—

Privies in connection with ashpits ...	428
Water-closets ...	11,070
Slop-closets ...	154
Ashpits (wet) ...	240
Ashpits (dry) ...	119
Ashbins ...	10,507
Chemical closets ...	14

It is the rule to require the provision of a separate water closet to each house, where structural alterations or conversions are carried out.

The privies shewn above are situate in the areas transferred to the district under the County Review Order, and action is now being taken with a view to their abolition or conversion to water closets.



## Air Pollution.

### Sootfall.

The total sootfall for the year as shewn by analysis of the deposit passing through our soot gauge, was found to be at the rate of 247.08 tons per square mile ; that is to say, that over 1,694 tons of soot fell upon the 4,394 acres which is occupied by Castleford.

The amount of tar deposited to the square mile was 3.58 tons, and that of sulphur compounds was 30.6 tons.

The old idea that prosperity and smoke go hand in hand is still deeply rooted in many quarters ; many people still welcome the sight of smoking chimneys as an indication of activity and employment of men.

On the contrary, smoke does not always mean prosperity ; indeed, there is available conclusive proof that it does always mean waste. Loss in terms of money can easily be shewn. What is not so easily shewn but is not less certain is loss of health, the amount of sunlight available, and the amenity and beauty of the countryside.

While, to a community such as ours, the production and marketing of coal is a vital question, it should not be beyond the wit of man to devise a means whereby it could be used in an entirely beneficial manner, and unaccompanied by the evils which arise to-day from the combustion of raw coal.

Our very sincere thanks are due to the Directors of the Castleford and Whitwood Gas Co. and Mr. C. Mountain for their kindness in carrying out our monthly analysis entirely free of charge.

We are also indebted again to Mr. Schofield, of " Hadleigh," Cambridge Street, for allowing us to use his garden in which to place the soot gauge.

In consequence of complaints of air pollution by sulphur, believed to be due to a steam raising plant fired by crude gas, the district was visited by the Chief Inspector, and the local Inspector of the Alkali, etc., Department of the Ministry of Health, and together with your own Officer, the premises and plant were



inspected. Arrangements were made for the testing of flue gases, and subsequent adjustment of burners, which resulted in improvement.

Investigations were made regarding the excessive discharge of black smoke and grit from colliery chimneys in the district. Alterations and improvements are now in progress at certain of the collieries, which include the installation of new boiler plant, and it is anticipated that there will be a considerable reduction in atmospheric pollution when these works are completed.

Measurement of sootfall was continued as in previous years. An additional deposit gauge, situate at Carr Lane, Glass Houghton, was taken over from the Pontefract Rural District Council in April.

Results of analyses (quarterly) of deposit passing through the latter gauge are as follows :—

Quarter ending.	Rainfall in Millimetres	Tons per Square Mile.						
		Total Solids	Undissolved Matter	Dissolved Matter	Tar	Sulphate as SO <sub>3</sub>	Chlorine as Cl	Ammonia as NH <sub>3</sub>
March ...	85.5	401.44	366.6	34.84	0.75	8.98	7.11	0.52
June ...	108.2	347.54	304.29	43.25	1.09	11.84	3.98	0.72
September ...	200.4	423.13	370.04	53.09	0.72	16.64	5.99	0.51
*December ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total 9 mths.	394.1	1172.11	1040.93	131.18	2.56	37.46	17.08	1.25

\* Bottle broken.

The following graphs and tables shew the monthly sootfall during 1938, and the amount deposited during recent years, as registered by the Castleford gauge (Cambridge Street).

## SOOTFALL FOR 1939.

### MONTHLY ANALYSES.

CASTLEFORD (CAMBRIDGE STREET) GAUGE.

Month	Rainfall in Millimeters	Tons per Square Mile.						
		Total Solids	Undissolved Matter	Dissolved Matter	Tar	Sulphate as SO <sub>3</sub>	Chlorine as Cl	Ammonia as NH <sub>3</sub>
January ...	30.94	32.51	26.04	6.47	0.50	5.66	0.94	0.108
February ...	27.84	14.99	10.24	4.75	0.20	3.437	0.606	0.135
March ...	5.117	12.23	7.11	5.12	0.41	3.37	0.64	0.07
April ...	1.322	4.346	0.707	3.639	0.067	0.808	0.101	trace
May ...	31.28	5.391	1.112	4.279	0.270	0.707	0.674	0.051
June ...	29.72	7.513	1.449	6.064	0.067	1.044	0.606	0.067
July ...	49.84	52.08	48.85	3.23	0.14	2.763	0.910	0.202
August ...	32.03	15.81	11.76	4.05	0.30	2.425	1.253	0.011
September ...	29.55	5.59	1.28	4.31	0.24	0.943	0.606	0.067
October ...	28.95	43.89	38.00	5.89	0.71	3.335	0.775	0.168
November ...	30.42	22.64	14.29	8.35	0.14	3.77	0.93	0.11
*December	38.01	30.09	23.78	6.31	0.54	2.38	2.26	0.158
Totals ...	335.019	247.08	184.618	62.462	3.584	30.642	10.301	1.147

Rainfall 335.019 millimetres or 13.18 inches.

\* Bottle broken. 5 years' average.

Annual Sootfall during the last five years :—

1934	...	...	...	321.80 tons per square mile.
1935	...	...	...	299.75 tons per square mile.
1936	...	...	...	335.32 tons per square mile.
1937	...	...	...	377.50 tons per square mile.
1938	...	...	...	247.08 tons per square mile.

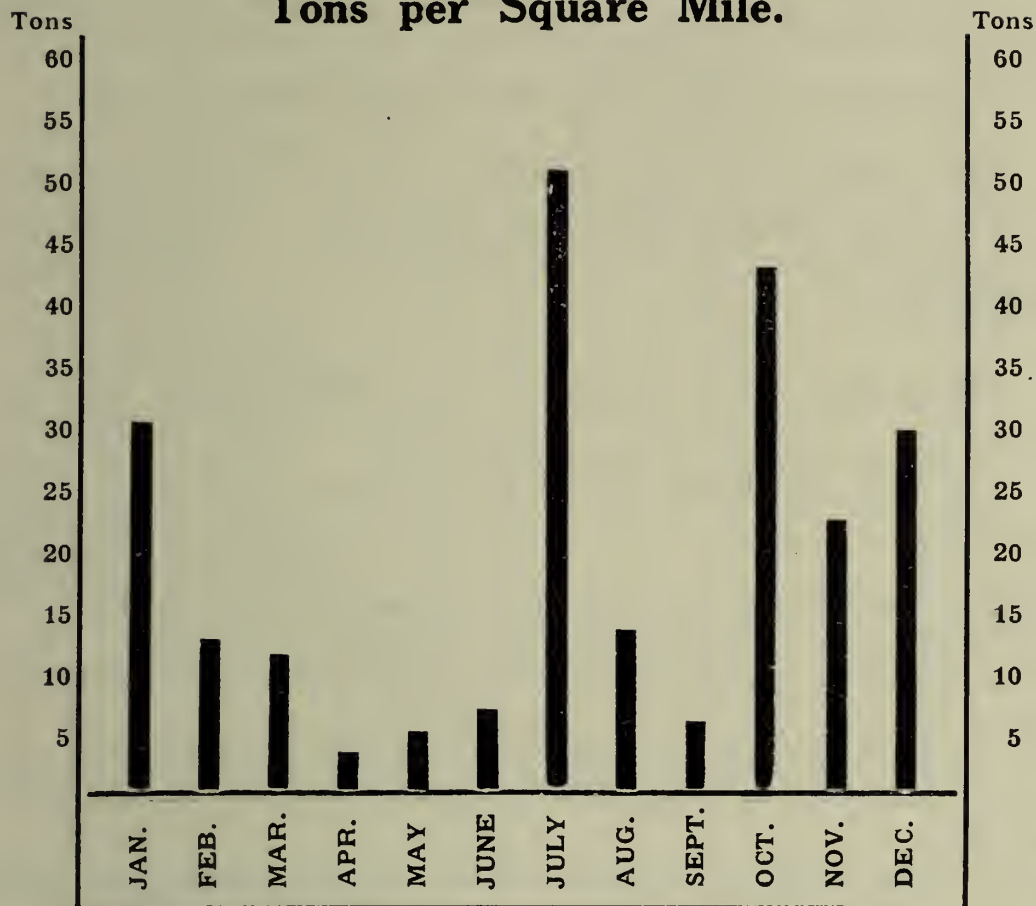
Annual Rainfall during the last five years :—

1934	...	...	19.3 inches.
1935	...	...	18.2 inches.
1936	...	...	13.2 inches.
1937	...	...	18.1 inches.
1938	...	...	13.2 inches.

## MONTHLY SOOTFALL IN 1938.

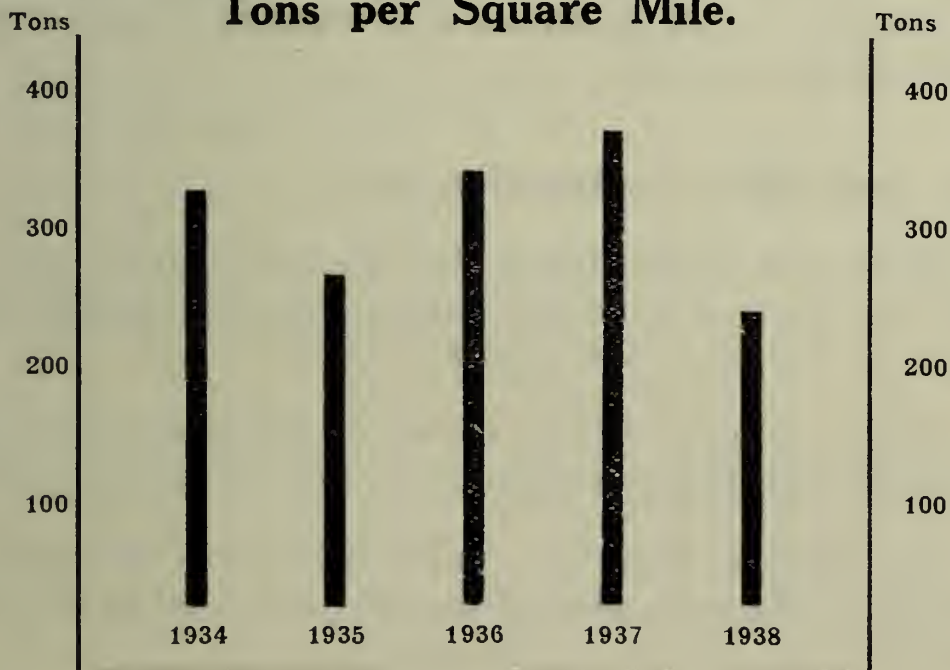
Castleford (Cambridge Street) Gauge

Tons per Square Mile.



## ANNUAL SOOTFALL FOR LAST FIVE YEARS.

Tons per Square Mile.



### Sulphur Estimation.

The stations have been maintained in the grounds adjoining the Town Hall and the Maternity Home. The lead peroxide method of investigation is used ; and monthly analyses are made.

The preparation of the cylinders and the analyses are being carried out by Messrs. Hickson & Welch Ltd., of Castleford, and we are indebted to Mr. Bernard Hickson for his kindly interest in this work.

The results of the analysis were as follows :—

Milligrams SO<sub>3</sub> per 100 sq. c.m. per day.

Station	Jn.	Feb.	Mh.	Ap.	My.	Jne.	Jly.	Aug	Sep.	Oct.	Nr.	Dr.	Aver. for Year.
Town Hall	3.43	4.29	5.1	4.6	2.36	2.31	2.43	2.31	3.23	3.08	4.66	4.9	3.564
Maternity Home	3.0	4.53	5.8	3.7	2.64	2.82	2.65	2.4	3.1	3.55	4.06	4.5	3.562

Sulphur pollution varies considerably throughout the country, and ranges from 0.23 milligrams at Lymington to 4.98 at Westminster Bridge, London.

### Rats and Mice Destruction Act.

Efforts were made during Rat Week to impress upon the public, by means of pictorial posters, the need to combat the rat menace by individual and collective action.

Advice was given by your officers on methods of destruction, and special attention was given to the Council's sewers and tips.

The response from the general public was disappointing, but good results were achieved from the action taken on Council property.



Sewer flushers laid 224 baits, composed of Zelio paste, of which 104 were taken. A number of dead rats were seen.

PREMISES WHERE BAITS WERE LAID.	Rodine	Zelio	Phosph- erous	Arnolds	Virus	Mixed	Laid	Taken
Airedale Tip ...	87	72	3	—	—	—	162	159
Sewage Works ...	53	43	—	33	—	—	129	129
Fryston Sewage Wks.	29	21	71	7	—	—	128	125
Cutsyke Sewage Wks.	24	27	—	—	—	—	51	46
Wheldale Cottages	32	—	—	—	—	—	32	31
Whitwood No. 1 ...	190	114	47	—	2	30	383	339
High Mere ...	—	—	—	—	—	20	20	11
Whitwood Cemetery	10	—	—	—	—	—	10	10
Totals ...	425	277	121	40	2	50	915	850

In addition, an experiment was made with the exhaust fumes from a motor vehicle, but no tangible results were obtained.

## Petroleum Storage.

There were issued, during the year, 40 licences for the storage of petroleum spirit; the quantity allowed to be stored under licence was 432,500 gallons.

There were 6 licences to store carbide of calcium issued, covering the storage of 3,218 lbs.

Bulk storage is now general in respect of premises licensed.

Three new tanks were installed during the year, having a total capacity of 1,300 gallons.

## Theatres and Cinemas.

These have been inspected from time to time and found to be maintained in good condition.

Ventilation of the premises during and between performances could, in some cases, be improved.

# Common Lodging Houses.

There are 5 Common Lodging Houses in the Town, with a total accommodation for approximately 200 persons.

They have usually been found in clean condition.

They appear to offer much more accommodation than is needed to meet the demand.

# Offensive Trades.

Premises registered for the carrying on of Offensive Trades number 65.

These consist of 2 Gut Scrapers, 3 Tripe Dressers ; and 60 Fish Fryers.

They are generally maintained in fair condition.

# Factories.

There are on the register 125 factories. Of these 101 use mechanical power. These include 25 bakehouses of which 4 are domestic bakehouses.

Premises are generally found to be kept in good order.

The following matters were dealt with :—

Want of cleanliness ... ..	3
Water-closets insufficient and defective	16
Miscellaneous ... ..	4

# Shops Acts and Orders.

A good deal of attention was given during the year to this side of the work.

Action was taken to secure the provision of sanitary accommodation and washing facilities, and while the majority of our shops are provided with these conveniences, special care was taken to secure that plans for alterations of shops, or of new shops, included such provision.

Inquiries were made into the maintenance of suitable temperature and ventilation in shops, as required by the provisions of the Shops Acts. Notices requiring compliance were issued where such action was found necessary.

Contravention was found particularly with reference to evening closing, and the offenders were warned that further contravention would result in legal proceedings being taken.

The heating of the Market was further considered but without tangible result.

## Public Health Propaganda.

Arrangements were made for the Travelling Cinema of the Health and Cleanliness Council to operate in the district for three days. Film displays were given outside a number of the schools and in various other parts of the district. They were given at noon, during the afternoon and in the evening, and were very well attended.

## Classified Statement of Inspections.

Housing ... ..	1342
Slaughterhouses ... ..	1123
Offensive Trades (excluding fried fish shops) ...	18
Dairies, etc. ... ..	51
Common Lodging Houses ... ..	22
Shops ... ..	163
Works in Progress ... ..	232
Refuse Removal ... ..	540
Water Courses ... ..	2
Keeping of Animals ... ..	10
Smoke, Fumes, etc. ... ..	42
Petrol Stores ... ..	18
Theatres ... ..	16
Van Dwellings ... ..	110
Factories & Workshops (including Bakehouses)	87
Fish Warehouses ... ..	25
Fried Fish Shops ... ..	121
Schools ... ..	26

Flooding of Cellars	...	...	...	21
Rat Infestation	...	...	...	18
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	12

## Statement of Defects or Nuisances Found and Results of Action.

			Found	Abated or Remedied
Defective roofs	...	...	63	35
Defective eaves-gutters, fall pipes	...	...	68	40
Defective external walls	...	...	87	51
Defective and damp plaster...	...	...	145	84
Defective floors	...	...	63	34
Defective ashbins	...	...	174	258
Drain Blockages	...	...	319	314
Defective sink and waste pipe	...	...	50	30
Defective yard paving	...	...	43	39
Defective chimney and fireplace	...	...	89	64
Defective windows	...	...	90	53
Defective doors	...	...	53	25
Defective drains, water-closets, etc.	...	...	76	63
Defective staircases	...	...	36	30
Miscellaneous	...	...	19	15
Totals			1375	1135

### Common Lodging Houses—

Want of lime-washing	...	...	1	1
Dirty floors, etc.	...	...	2	2

### Slaughterhouses—

Want of lime-washing	...	...	3	3
Defective floors, roofs and walls	...	...	4	4
Defective yard paving	...	...	3	3
Offal not removed	...	...	6	6



### Factories and Workshops—

Want of cleanliness	...	...	3	3
Water-closets : Insufficient	...	...	3	3
Defective	...	...	13	11
Miscellaneous	...	...	4	4

### Summary.

Defects or Nuisances found	...	1417
Number carried over from 1937	...	522
Number abated or remedied, 1938	...	1175
Number carried forward to 1939	...	764
Number of premises where nuisances or defects were found during the year	...	711

### Notices Issued.

Informal Notices issued	...	417
Informal Notices complied with	...	285
Statutory Notices issued	...	None
Statutory Notices complied with	...	None

In conclusion, I again desire to express my appreciation of the continued confidence the Council repose in me. I also wish to thank Mr. E. J. Winfield and my other assistants for their consistently good work during the year, and for their valued help in the preparation of this report.

I beg to remain, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

**T. E. BIRTWISLE,**

SANITARY INSPECTOR,

CLEANSING AND TRANSPORT  
SUPERINTENDENT.

TOWN HALL,  
CASTLEFORD.

23rd August, 1939.

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